Clews Pattern: Castle

Maker: Clews Pattern:Castle
Meat Dish or Platter c1820
A stunning very large dish. Backstamp: Clews stone china and impressed Clews Staffordshire Warranted. A little surface scratching, some wear to the outer rim and minor wear on the back, overall excellent condition.
Dimensions: 54.5 cm x 43 cm / 21.5 ins x 17 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Castle
Plate c1825
James & Ralph Clews worked the Cobridge Works, Staffordshire from 1818 until 1834. Their popular Castle pattern, better known made by Spode, is printed here in a darker blue than the Spode version. Backstamps: no maker's backstamp, only a large impressed 6. Some untensil marks, but the glaze is sound and this plate is in lovely condition.
Dimensions: 25 cm / 9.75 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Castle
Plate c1825
James & Ralph Clews worked the Cobridge Works, Staffordshire from 1818 until 1834. The popular Castle pattern printed here in an unusually dark blue. Backstamps: impressed round mark with Clews Warranted Staffordshire and containing a large crown. Blue printed seal mark with Clews and beneath Stone China. There is a little wear to the rim with a few tiny rubs and nicks, but these are barely noticeable.
Dimensions: 25.5 cm / 10 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Castle
Plate c1820
James & Ralph Clews worked the Cobridge Works, Staffordshire from 1818 until 1834. Backstamp: Clews Stone China. A little surface scratching, one or two minor blemishes and a little wear to the outer rim. Overall excellent condition.
Dimensions: 25.5 cm / 10 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Castle
Salad or Dessert Plate c1820
James & Ralph Clews worked the Cobridge Works, Staffordshire from 1818 until 1834. Their popular Castle pattern, better known made by Spode, is printed here in a darker blue than the Spode version. Backstamp: no maker's backstamp. The glaze is crazed and there is a small glaze blemish in manufacture. The small size makes it most attractive.
Dimensions: 21 cm / 8 ins

Clews Pattern: Coronation

Maker: Clews Pattern:Coronation
Dish c1820
A gorgeous dish with lovely printed grapevine and embossed decoration to the border and the side handles in the shape of two very pretty bows. Backstamp: Clews Coronation Stone China and impressed Clews Stone China Warranted. There is a little wear and loss of glaze to one handle and the rim and on the back, two small chips and a little wear and discolouration, overall though a lovely piece.
Dimensions: 24 cm x 20 cm & 4 cm high / 9.5 ins x 8 ins & 1.5 ins high

Maker: Clews Pattern:Coronation
Dish c1820
A gorgeous dish with lovely printed grapevine and embossed decoration to the border and the side handles in the shape of two very pretty bows. Backstamp: Clews Coronation Stone China and impressed Clews Stone China Warranted. A little very minor wear underneath otherwise excellent condition. This has the hallmark of a early hand made piece and is not exactly square, which just adds to its charm.
Dimensions: 25 cm x 20 cm & 4 cm high / 9.75 ins x 8 ins & 1.5 ins high

Maker: Clews Pattern:Coronation
Comport c1820
Absolutely fabulous comport, with gorgeous grapevine border with added embossed decoration to the foot and rim of the dish. The most unusual feature however are the side handles in the shape of two very pretty bows. Backstamp: Clews Coronation Stone China and impressed Clews Stone China Warranted. There are a couple of very minor manufacturing blemishes otherwise excellent condition.
Dimensions: 26 cm x 21.5 cm & 10 cm high / 10.25 ins x 8.5 ins & 4 ins high

Maker: Clews Pattern:Coronation
Plate c1820
Absolutely gorgeous plate, the central pattern surrounded by a fabulous grapevine border with added embossed decoration. Backstamp: Clews Coronation Stone China and impressed Clews Stone China Warranted. There is a very small chip to the rim and on the back a little wear with loss of glaze.
Dimensions: 21.5 cm / 8.5 ins

Clews Pattern: Foliage and Scroll Border Series

Maker: Clews Pattern:Foliage and Scroll Border Series
Plate c1825
A lovely plate with dark blue border detail. Clews impressed circular crown mark
Dimensions: 17 cm / 6.75 ins

Clews Pattern: Indian Sporting Series

Maker: Clews Pattern:Indian Sporting Series
Plate Death of the Bear c1825
James & Ralph Clews worked the Cobridge Works, Staffordshire from 1818 until 1834. This is their version of Indian Sporting Series, which is better known by Spode. Examples of Clew's wares in this series are relatively rare and are printed in a darker shade of blue than Spode's There is no maker's backstamp only a blue cross. On the back is a label W.L. Little Collection 18. Little was a major collector in the mid-20th Century and author of Staffordshire Blue, an early guide to blue and white and its manufacturers. The rim of this plate is very rubbed and worn and under the rim is a tiny chip. The ring of the foot rim has some minor chips also. The glaze is sound and the face is bright and clean. Attractive example with impeccable provenance.
Dimensions: 26 cm / 10 ins

Clews Pattern: Landing of Lafayette

Maker: Clews Pattern:Landing of Lafayette
Dessert Plate c1825
This scene titled "Landing of Gen. La Fayette at Castle Garden, New York, 16 August 1824". Clews impressed circular crown mark
Dimensions: 22 cm / 8.75 ins

Clews Pattern: River Scene with Fort

Maker: Clews Pattern:River Scene with Fort
Meat Dish or Platter c1820
A stunning platter printed in a fabulous soft blue. Backstamp: Clews Stone China. A little minor surface scratching otherwise excellent condition.
Dimensions: 33 cm x 25.5 cm / 13 ins x 10 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:River Scene with Fort
Plate c1820
Lovely plate printed in a soft blue. No backstamp. Fine all over crazing with a small blemish on the face to the right, a hairline to the rim, a small area of restoration on the back and a tiny spot of restoration to the rim.
Dimensions: 25 cm / 10 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:River Scene with Fort
Plate c1820
James & Ralph Clews. An absolutely gorgeous plate printed in a soft blue. No backstamp. Tiny very minor blemish on the rim and a little wear to part of the outer rim, overall excellent condition.
Dimensions: 25 cm / 9.75 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:River Scene with Fort
Soup Plate c1825
This is an uncommon pattern by Clews and the pattern name is attributed. The scene is vaguely reminiscent of Spode's Rome or Tiber pattern. Impressed mark Crown with GR and Clews, warranted Staffordshire, implies date of manufacture between 1818-1830. Minor wear underneath and to the rim, but face fine.
Dimensions: 22 cm / 8.75 ins

Clews Pattern: Ruins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Ruins
Sauce Tureen Stand c1820
This is a gorgeous piece printed in a lovely soft blue. The tureen would have sat on the central part of the stand which is raised, giving added interest to this piece. There is a little minor discolouration around the stilt marks, otherwise in superb condition. No makers marks.
Dimensions: 20 x 16 cm / 8 ins x 6 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Ruins
Soup Plate c1820
An absolutely gorgeous soup plate printed in a lovely soft blue. No backstamp. Light crazing with a little surface scratching and a tiny tiny nick to the rim. On the back there is a little wear to the rim and some brown mottling but these are really minor and do not detract from the beautiful plate.
Dimensions: 25.5 cm / 10 ins

Clews Pattern: Rural Village

Maker: Clews Pattern:Rural Village
Meat Dish or Platter c1825
Believed to be by James and Ralph Clews of Cobridge, Staffordshire 1818 to 1834. Most pieces with this popular design do not have a maker's backstamp. This platter has a bold impressed crown with what looks like a short word underneath. Despite all our efforts the word remains tantilisingly illegible. The platter is therefore attributed to Clews on the strength of the crown, which is a mark they used, and because marked examples made by them are known of this pattern. There is very fine crazing to the glaze, barely visible on the face, which is bright and clean. A printing blemish on the far right and a small firing crack to the bottom right rim, both occurring in manufacture. There is a small ding in the glaze on the back. The platter was made so that it does not sit quite flat and is a charming reminder that it was hand made by an artisan some 175 years ago. A lovely clean example with a good clear print in a firm blue.
Dimensions: 45.5 cm x 35.5 cm / 18 ins x 14 ins

Maker: Clews Pattern:Rural Village
Plate c1825
Made by James & Ralph Clews of Cobridge, who were active 1818 to 1834. This attractive rural scene is better known as Village Church, but Clews chose to name their version Rural Village. Backstamp: blue printed laurel wreath with Rural Village on band and impressed crown. There is some fine crazing to the glaze and the slightest hint of associated staining in places, but it still gleams with an almost mirror like glaze. A tiny glaze blemish, which as it is on the tree trunk looks like a knot. Overall a lovely example of this popular design.
Dimensions: 25 cm / 9.75 ins

Clews Pattern: Solar Rays brown

Maker: Clews Pattern:Solar Rays brown
Drainer c1840
This is a most unusual pattern with the sun rays emanating from the centre. It is recorded with a number of different scenes, although all have the central sun rays. A plate is recorded as being marked Clews Warranted Staffordshire for James and Ralph Clews. No backstamp. Light all over crazing with a little wear and minor discolouration to the outer rim and a little minor discolouration also on the back.
Dimensions: 32 cm x 23 cm / 12.5 ins x 9 ins

Miscellaneous

Platter: James and Ralph Clews British

ca. 1815–ca. 1834

This dark blue and white transfer-printed earthenware platter made by the Staffordshire firm of James & Ralph Clews features a view from the "America and Independence" series illustrating approximately fourteen buildings surrounded by the "States" border produced for the United States export market. The series is also known as the "Arms of the States." Although a few buildings in the series are sometimes identified as American, most appear to be anonymous English structures like the castle in the present view. The border for the series typically contains the names of fifteen states in swags of ribbon separated by stars. However some pieces include the names of eighteen states. To the left of each view an allegorical female figure wearing a blindfold inscribed "JUSTICE" holds an oval portrait medallion of the nation's founding father, George Washington (1732–1799). To the right an allegorical female figure symbolizing American independence from Great Britain holds a liberty pole with a Phrygian cap inscribed “LIBERTY." The title of the series, "AMERICA AND INDEPENDENCE,” appears beneath the two figures. The American Wing's collection contains additional pieces by Clews, including others from the same series. Refer to the Dictionary for a definition of the term "transfer printing" and for information about Clews.

Maker: James and Ralph Clews (British, Cobridge, Stoke-on-Trent, active ca. 1818–36)

Date: ca. 1815–ca. 1834

James and Ralph Clews - Platter - British (American market) - The Metropolitan Museum of Art - https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/6518

Plate : James and Ralph Clews British

ca. 1815–34

This brown and white transfer-printed earthenware plate made by the Staffordshire firm of James & Ralph Clews features a view from a series of four views of country estates known as "Virginia" designed specifically for the American export market. The series title may refer to the geographical location of the estates pictured or to the particular United States market for the series. The source of the views is unknown and the estates may all be imaginary. Each view is framed in the foreground by flowers strewn across meandering latticework. The present view depicts a man and two women standing in front of a statue surrounded by a semi-circular stone balustrade. A river flows in the middle distance in front of a two-storey mansion built in the Greek Revival style typical of the first half of the nineteenth century in America. The series border consists of outer foliated scrolls and inner clusters of flowers. The American Wing's collection also contains additional pieces by Clews. Refer to the Dictionary for a definition of the term "transfer printing" and for information about Clews.

James and Ralph Clews - Plate - British (American market) - The Metropolitan Museum of Art - https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/5971

Plate: James and Ralph Clews British active c. 1818–1836 - Date: 1818-1834. Transfer-printed earthenware

Collection | Carnegie Museum of Art - https://collection.carnegieart.org/objects/cec9e4ba-3ed5-4960-b152-a61dbd3a26fc

James Clews: British active 1817–1842 Creator: Ralph Clews active 1817–1842 Date 1818-1834

Collection | Carnegie Museum of Art - https://collection.carnegieart.org/objects/0c433826-e0e4-40e5-9e54-40cc36d95511

Picturesque Views from Fishkill Hudson River” platter

James and Ralph Clews :British active c. 1818–1836 Date c.1832 Ttransfer-printed earthenware

Collection | Carnegie Museum of Art - https://collection.carnegieart.org/objects/3260fcf0-f94e-4790-8c1c-13a0e9708605

Original Links

1. *Clews Castle*
2. *Clews Coronation*
3. *Clews Foliage and Scroll Border Series*
4. *Clews Indian Sporting Series*
5. *Clews Landing of Lafayette*
6. *Clews River Scene with Fort*
7. *Clews Ruins*
8. *Clews Rural Village*
9. *Clews Solar Rays brown*

Ralph & James Clews

Cobridge

1815 - 1834

Earthenware manufacturer at the Cobridge Works, Cobridge, Stoke-on-Trent, England.

https://www.thepotteries.org/allpotters/277.htm

- "Most existing references state that the partnership did not start until 1818 or 1819 but documentary evidence proves that they were operating in November 1815 under the style R & J Clews which was also used at the end of their partnership" -The Dictionary of Blue & White Printed Pottery 1780-1880, Coysh & Henrywood.
- The brothers rented the Cobridge Works from William Adams in September 1817 but they were stated to not be in good repair. - The Encyclopaedia of British Pottery & Porcelain Marks, Godden.
- The business was declared bankrupt in 1834.
- In 1837 James Clews went to America and joined the Indiana Pottery Company as one of its three principles. He stayed for five years.

Examples of ware:

Ralph & James Clews "specialised in blue-printed wares and produced several series of patterns including some for the American and Russian export trade.

They produced three series of British views, one titled 'Select Scenery', one with the Bluebell Border also used by William Adams, and the third within a foliage and scroll border, once again used by Adams but this time also using the same untitled views.

Three unusual series were made, the Doctor Syntax Series, the 'Wilkie's Designs' Series, and the Don Quixote Series. Another later production was the 'Zoological Gardens' Series. These were all exported to America."

"Clews pirated Spode's Castle pattern and also some of the Indian Sporting patterns, The latter were almost certainly made only for export to America, several examples having been recorded with a printed mark of the New York importer John Greenfield."

Coysh & Henrywood

Marks used on ware for identification:

"The main mark consists of the words 'CLEWS WARRANTED STAFFORDSHIRE' impressed usually between concentric circles surrounding a crown.

Other known marks include simply 'CLEWS' impresses and a printed pseudo-Chinese seal mark with the name 'CLEWS' and the words 'Stone China' beneath."

CLEWS WARRANTED STAFFORDSHIRE

CLEWS
Stone China

Black printed plate in the Solar Rays pattern

Usually this pattern by James and Ralph Clews carries the printed 'Solar Rays' mark but without any indication of the manufacturer.

Solar Rays

**CLEWS WARRANTED STAFFORDSHIRE
**(impressed mark with crown in the centre)

Blue printed plate from the Doctor Syntax Series

From 1809 to 1811 William Combe, a British writer, wrote for Ackermann's The Poetical Magazine the serialised comic poem The Tour of Dr Syntax in Search of the Picturesque, descriptive and moralizing verse illustrated by artist Thomas Rowlandson's colour plates. It satirised William Gilpin, who toured Britain to describe his theory of the Picturesque.

Doctor Syntax
Reading his Tour

Blue printed platter in a romantic castle scene

J Greenfield's
China Store
No 77 Pearl Street,
NEW YORK

John Greenfield was an importer, based in New York